

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

On page 1, please amend the Title as follows:

SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR THE AUTOMATIC STORAGE OF BUSINESS
MANAGEMENT DATA

Page 1, after the Title, please insert as a first paragraph the following:

--This application is a national stage filing under 35 U.S.C. § 371 of International Application No. PCT/EP2003/009955, filed September 8, 2003, which published in the German language, and which claims priority to EP 02021654.5, filed September 27, 2002, EP 02021648.7, filed September 27, 2002, DE 102 61 123.8, filed December 20, 2002, and DE 102 61 121.1, filed December 20, 2002.--

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 35, as follows:

~~Against the background of this prior art, the invention was based on the object of~~
~~improving~~ Therefore, systems and methods are needed to improve upon the method
cited at the outset such that the stated drawbacks are eliminated at least in part.

Please insert the following section header before line 1 on page 5:

--SUMMARY--

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 1, as follows:

~~The invention achieves this object by means of a method of the type stated at the outset which is characterized~~

[[--]] ~~in that~~ In a method consistent with an embodiment of the present invention, a first step involves at least one input data record being produced from data relating to a business transaction, said input data record having a structure which is specific to one or the or each different class of business transactions and to one or more business applications. [[,]]

[[--]] ~~in that a~~ A second step involves the at least one input data record being transformed into an output data record which is designed for access by at least two business applications, ~~and~~

[[--]] ~~in that a~~ Further, a third step involves the output data record being stored with its associated identification code, so that the output data record can be read in full or in part by the at least two business applications by referring to the identification code.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 19, as follows:

~~The subject matter of the invention is therefore a method for~~ Embodiments
consistent with the present invention may automatically filing file documents relating to business transactions [[,]] ~~in which a~~ In one embodiment, a computer system is ~~used to~~
provided that stores data relating to a business transaction for access using a business application and in which a business transaction is assigned an identification code, with

one or more different classes of business transactions having different data structures being mapped in the computer system, ~~characterized~~

~~[[--]] in that a~~ A first step involves at least one input data record being produced from data relating to a business transaction, said input data record having a structure which is specific to one or the or each different class of business transactions and to one or more business applications. ~~[[.]]~~

~~[[--]] in that a~~ A second step involves the at least one input data record being transformed into an output data record which can be configured using one or more of the business applications, ~~and~~

~~[[--]] in that a~~ Further, a third step involves the output data record being stored with its associated identification code, so that the output data record can be read in full or in part by the at least two business applications by referring to the identification code.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 6, as follows:

~~The subject matter~~ Embodiments of the invention ~~is likewise an~~ also encompass apparatus, ~~for carrying out this method in line with Claim 11,~~ computer programs and computer program products ~~in line with Claims 12 and 14,~~ and also an electronic data structure or an electronic document which can be obtained or has been obtained in accordance with ~~one of the~~ methods based on the invention. The invention also covers computer programs on or embedded in a data storage medium which can be used to load the programs into a computer and to carry out ~~the inventive methods~~ consistent with the invention. The program may be in the form of a source code, an object code or a hybrid code, in fully or partially compiled form. The data storage medium may be any

unit or apparatus which is suitable for holding a program: ROM, e.g. CD-ROM or a semiconductor ROM or DVD ROM, a magnetic storage medium, e.g. a floppy disk or hard disk, a transferable carrier, such as an electrical or optical signal which can be transferred via electrical or optical lines or via electronic waves such as radio or radio waves, or another suitable carrier. If the program is held in a signal which is routed via a cable or another means or medium, then the cable or the other means or medium can be the data storage medium. Alternatively, the program may be embedded in an integrated circuit which is provided for carrying out ~~the inventive methods~~ according to the invention.

Please insert the following on page 11, prior to line 1:

--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The accompanying drawings, which are incorporated in and constitute a part of this specification, illustrate embodiments of the invention and together with the description, serve to explain the principles of the invention.--

Please amend the paragraphs beginning on page 11, line 2, and ending on page 11, line 18, as follows:

~~In the figures,~~

Figure 1~~[[:]]~~ ~~shows a schematic~~ is an illustration of an exemplary computer system for performing a method consistent with embodiments of the present invention ~~for carrying out the inventive method;~~

Figure 2[[:]] ~~shows~~ is an exemplary embodiment of a computer program for carrying out the method using a block diagram;

Figure 3[[:]] ~~shows a schematic~~ is an illustration of the ~~an exemplary~~ data structure of a document with data sources and accesses by business applications;

Figure 4[[:]] ~~shows a schematic~~ is an illustration of exemplary structures and contents of an input data record and a document ~~using an example from the~~ for a purchase of goods example; and

Figure 5[[:]] ~~shows a schematic illustration of~~ exemplary structures and contents of an input data record and a document ~~using an example from the~~ for a sale of goods example.

Please insert the following section header before line 20 on page 11:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Please insert the following on page 24, following line 3:

--While certain features and embodiments of the invention have been described, other embodiments of the invention will be apparent to those skilled in the art from consideration of the specification and practice of the embodiments of the invention disclosed herein. Further, the steps of the disclosed methods may be modified in any manner, including by reordering steps and/or inserting or deleting steps, without departing from the principles of the invention. It is intended, therefore, that the specification and examples be considered as exemplary only, with a true scope and

spirit of the invention being indicated by the following claims and their full scope of equivalents.--